

Claims:

This listing of claims reflects the proper status identifier as required in the Notice.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A hard armor composite, comprising:
 - (a) a rigid non-ceramic, non-perforated facing;
 - (b) a ballistic fabric backing carried by said facing, and comprising an array of bundled high-performance fibers, said fibers having a tensile strength greater than 7 grams per denier and a denier per filament ratio of less than 5.4; and
 - (c) said rigid facing and fabric backing having a combined thickness of less than 0.900-inches, and an areal density of no more than 5.1 pounds per square foot.
2. (original) A hard armor composite according to claim 1, wherein said fabric backing comprises a plurality of overlying fabric layers.
3. (original) A hard armor composite according to claim 2, wherein said fabric layers are laminated under heat and pressure to form a unitary ballistic structure.
4. (original) A hard armor composite according to claim 1, and comprising means for adhering said fabric backing to said facing.
5. (original) A hard armor composite according to claim 4, wherein said means for adhering comprises an adhesive selected from the group consisting of a thermoplastic polymer resin matrix and a thermosetting polymer resin matrix.

6. (original) A hard armor composite according to claim 4, wherein said means for adhering comprises a polymer film.

7. (original) A hard armor composite according to claim 4, wherein said means for adhering comprises an adhesive selected from the group consisting of an epoxy adhesive, a polysulfide adhesive, a polyurethane adhesive, a phenolic adhesive, a polyester adhesive, a polyvinyl butyral adhesive, a polyolefin adhesive, and a vinyl ester adhesive.

8. (original) A hard armor composite according to claim 1, wherein said rigid facing is constructed of a material selected from the group consisting of steel, glass, aluminum, titanium, and graphite.

9. (original) A hard armor composite according to claim 1, wherein said high-performance fibers are selected from the group consisting of aramid, ultra-high molecular weight polyethylene (UHMWPE), poly {p-phenylene-2, 6-benzobisoxazole} (PBO), and poly {diimidazo pyridinylene (dihydroxy) phenylene} (M5).

10. (original) A hard armor composite according to claim 1, wherein said rigid facing comprising a generally flat, continuous monolithic plate.

11. (cancelled)

12. (cancelled)

13. (currently amended) A hard armor composite, comprising:

- (a) a rigid non-ceramic, non-perforated facing;
- (b) a ballistic fabric backing carried by said facing, and comprising an array of bundled high-performance fibers, said fibers having a tensile strength greater than 7 grams per denier and a denier per filament ratio of no more than 2.0; and
- (c) said rigid facing and fabric backing having a combined thickness of less than 0.900-inches, and an areal density of no more than 5.1 pounds per square foot.

14. (cancelled)

15. (original) A hard armor composite according to claim 13, and comprising means for adhering said fabric backing to said non-ceramic facing.

16. (original) A hard armor composite according to claim 15, wherein said means for adhering comprises an adhesive selected from the group consisting of an epoxy adhesive, a polysulfide adhesive, a polyurethane adhesive, a phenolic adhesive, a polyester adhesive, a polyvinyl butyral adhesive, or a polyolefin adhesive, and a vinyl ester adhesive.

17. (original) A hard armor composite according to claim 13, wherein said non-ceramic facing comprises a generally flat, continuous monolithic plate.

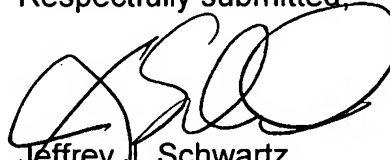
18. (cancelled)

19. (cancelled)

20. (original) A hard armor composite according to claim 13, wherein said high-performance fibers are selected from the group consisting of aramid, ultra-high molecular weight polyethylene (UHMWPE), poly {p-phenylene-2, 6-benzobisoxazole} (PBO), and poly {diimidazo pyridinylene (dihydroxy) phenylene} (M5).

Applicant submits that all of the claims in the case are now in condition for allowance. Such action is therefore respectfully requested at an early date. If the Examiner believes that issues remain for discussion, she is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JJS', is written over the typed name.

Jeffrey J. Schwartz
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 37,532

Jeffrey J. Schwartz
Schwartz Law Firm, P.C.
SouthPark Towers
6100 Fairview Road, Suite 1135
Charlotte, North Carolina 28210
Tel: 704-552-1889
Fax: 704-552-1866
Email: jjis@schwartz-iplaw.com